OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1962 EDITION
GSA GEN. REG. NO. 27

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO SAC, DALLAS (89-43)

DATE: 11/23/63

FROM KYLE G. CLARK, ASAC

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF
PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY

Section Chief JIM HANDLEY telephonically requested, 10:15 AM, that we obtain the following:

1. Get hair samples of the subject - sample of each type, if possible. (This lead given to BOOKHOUT)

2. Scrapings from subject's fingernails (lead to BOOKHOUT)

3. Wants to know immediately, if possible, results of the paraffin test given to the subject. Of particular interest would be the fact, if the test were positive on his cheek. Mr. HANDLEY requested the Bureau be advised. (lead to BOOKHOUT)

Done

The above leads given to SA BOOKHOUT, 10:20 AM. At 10:40 AM, SA HALL telephonically advised that the paraffin test had not been given as reported on TV, and that it had just been given and he would contact the office immediately when Lab results were obtained. In addition, he would obtain the other items requested.

At 11:50 AM, Section Chief HANDLEY again contacted this office and requested to know the results of the paraffin test. He was informed of the above, whereupon he said the Director has seen the report on TV and desires the results immediately so that they may be furnished to the President.

At 12:10, SA HALL telephonically advised that Dr. M. S. MASON, Director, Dallas City-County Criminal Investigation Laboratory, conducted examination of paraffin used on right cheek and hands of OSWALD on 11/23/63. Diphenylbenzidine reagent used in conducting test for Nitrate. Evidence of punctate traces of Nitrate were found in the paraffin on the right and left hands of OSWALD that were consistent with that of a person who had handled and/or fired firearms. Parafin on the right cheek showed no traces of Nitrate. No test made on left cheek.

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SA HALL did not know if OSWALD was allowed to wash his hands prior to test. Tests made between Midnight and 1 AM, 11/23

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FBI DALLAS

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Section Chief HANDLEY was telephonically furnished the above info concerning the paraffin test at 12:30 PM, this date. In addition, he was advised that the paraffin was placed on the subject between 12M and 1 AM, this date; however, the actual test was not conducted until 10:45 AM. Furthermore, the doctor conducting the test could not furnish info as to whether the subject was allowed to wash his hands and face prior to the test.